

We claim:

1. A process for separating triethanolamine continuously by distillation from a mixture of monoethanolamine, diethanolamine and triethanolamine together with ethanolamine ethers and water obtained by reaction of ammonia with ethylene oxide in the liquid phase under superatmospheric pressure and at elevated temperature, which comprises distilling the mixture in two stages, where the low-boiling fraction and the high-boiling fraction are taken off and discharged in the first stage and the intermediate-boiling fraction comprising $> 99.4\%$ by weight of triethanolamine and $< 0.2\%$ by weight of diethanolamine is distilled in the second stage.
2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distillation of the mixture is carried out in a first column and a second column connected to this.
3. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distillation of the mixture is carried out in a dividing wall column.
4. A process as claimed in claim 3, wherein the mixture is fed into the column in the middle region of the dividing wall and triethanolamine is discharged from the column.